

BRISBANE
THIS WEEK

Yes, a Queer World
Supply and Demand
If All Worked Hard
The Biggest Brain

How Queer is our world! Fascists, led by Sir Oswald Mosley of the English Blackshirts, who think they ought to change the British government, learned from a mob that fascism does not suit England—yet. The Blackshirts were driven home.

Next day, bands of the Fascists invaded the London Jewish quarter, smashing windows. In the first day's rioting between Fascists and the crowd that does not want fascism, hundreds were hurt.

England is becoming modernized. One of her race track gambling-gangsters, murdered "American fashion" in the course of gangster business, was honored with a funeral that would make Chicago or New York stare.

Mussolini does not believe that old "supply and demand" is necessarily omnipotent. While cutting four per cent from the value of Italian money, he forbids any increase in prices, any rent increase for two years. That experiment will be watched with interest. The word "money," most important in the world to many, has less real meaning than any other word in the dictionary, nobody knowing anything about it.

A new law in Paraguay compels every able-bodied man to work, whether he wants to or not. Here men can get jobs, but don't want them.

The general idea is good, but if all able-bodied men had been compelled to work always the human race would still be far back in the dark ages. One of the greatest Greeks said truly that bodily slavery was necessary, because it gave leisure to a few, leisure made thought possible and thought created progress.

If all men had worked hard, by compulsion, there would have been no deliberate thinking. Slavery would be necessary now for the world's progress had not machines taken the place of slaves.

Scientists of the Smithsonian Institution announce discovery by Dr. Hrdlicka in the Aleutian islands, off the coast of Alaska, of a skull that once held the biggest brain on record, excepting that of the Russian novelist Turgenieff, who had a brain cavity of 2,030 cubic centimeters. The biggest American brain belonged to Daniel Webster, 2,000 cubic centimeters.

But brain size and weight are not everything. Beethoven, with a 1,750 cubic centimeter skull, will outlive in importance Webster, the French naturalist Cuvier, and other "big brains."

Adaptation to usefulness is the important thing. It is said that the eye of the eagle is twice as heavy as the eagle's brain.

Wine bottled in Germany hereafter will have, instead of a cork, a plug of German wood.

To help make Germany independent of the outside world, the use of cork, that does not grow in Germany, is forbidden. This will save 10,000,000 marks a year, spent abroad for cork.

German wood, according to authorities, is cheaper, better, resists breakage, acid, alkali, and eliminates cork taste.

One question is, will the wooden cork swell up at the lower end sufficiently to overcome the pressure of gas in a champagne bottle?

At Jonesville, Va., Rev. T. Anderson, in a demonstration of faith, allowed poisonous serpents to bite him three times, assuring his congregation that they could not harm him. A copperhead moccasin snake bit him twice on the right hand; a rattlesnake once on the left.

Unfortunately Rev. Mr. Anderson, member of the Holiness persuasion, died soon afterward.

We go up and down quickly in the United States, particularly in new enterprises. William Fox, once one of the most energetic, successful of moving picture men, now a bankrupt, tells the court that in 1930 he was worth one hundred million dollars; now he has only "odds and ends," meaning only a few hundred thousands, here and there.

Our South American neighbor, Nicaragua, forbids all slot machines and other gambling devices in that country. All must be destroyed.

Nicaragua's government says such machines teach children to gamble, and their owners are parasites of the worst kind, making a profit of 68 cents on every dollar.

Current Events
in Review
By Edward W. PickardMormons Are Off the Dole,
Says President Grant

SIX months ago the Latter Day Saints church—otherwise the Mormons—inaugurated a program to make every able-bodied member self-supporting by October 1. In the great tabernacle at Salt Lake City Heber J. Grant, president of the church, told an audience of thousands that the plan had succeeded and that the drive had taken all the needy members off public relief. The church has consistently opposed "pay without work."

In reading his report President Grant took occasion to criticize the Townsend pension plan and government control of crops, and he warned the members to avoid "political entanglements."

Under the church relief drive, land was leased and the needy provided with implements for tilling. Women groups have made clothes and bedding. Members have contributed the financial equivalent of two meals monthly to a special fund.

In scattered storehouses, Mr. Grant reported, supplies have been laid up in generous quantities for distribution among the needy who helped produce them.

Under the program, the speaker declares, "the curse of idleness would be done away with, the evils of a dole abolished, and independence, thrift, and self-respect will be once more established amongst our people."

Social Security Act Is
Due for a Court Test

UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE C. B. KENNEDY of Montgomery, Ala., issued an order halting collection in Alabama of a one per cent payroll tax to finance the unemployment program. The result, it is expected, will be a clear cut test of the validity of the New Deal's social security act, for lawyers had no doubt the case would be carried to the United States Supreme court. The order was granted the Gulf States Steel corporation of Gadsden, Ala., on a plea that the unemployment insurance program, operated in co-operation with the federal government, violates both state and federal constitutions. A Supreme court hearing would carry the threat of possible invalidation of insurance and pension programs now under development in the several states.

Chicago Meat Packers
Cited by Wallace

CHARGES of engaging in unfair practices have been filed against the Armour and Swift meat packing companies of Chicago, and Secretary of Agriculture Wallace has cited them for a hearing in New York on November 2, for violation of the packers and stockyards act of 1921.

According to Dr. A. W. Miller of the bureau of animal industry, the complaint was based on the charge that the packers had been obtaining business in violation of the law from steamship companies in New York.

Under the alleged illegal arrangement, Miller said, Armour and Swift had arranged a reciprocal agreement by which they sold meat to the ship owners and in return sent their exports abroad in their ships. Another charge was that the packers had extended credit for longer periods for favored customers than for others.

Test Cases Started Under
Robinson-Patman Act

THREE complaints were filed by the federal trade commission under the Robinson-Patman act, naming five concerns, launching the first move to test its powers under this far-reaching legislation which forbids the granting or receiving by merchandisers of discriminatory price discounts in interstate commerce.

The complaints named Montgomery Ward and Company, Inc.; Kraft-Phenix Cheese corporation, Chicago; Shefford Cheese company, Inc., Syracuse, N. Y.; Bird and Son, Inc., and Bird Floor Covering Sales corporation, East Walpole, Mass.

Montgomery Ward and Company is named jointly with Bird and Son and the Bird Floor Covering Sales corporation, a subsidiary. The complaint contends that the two Bird companies sold floor coverings to Montgomery Ward and company at substantially lower prices than to competing retailers.

Kraft-Phenix Cheese was charged with discriminating in price between purchasers, with the alleged effect of lessening and injuring competition between it and other manufacturers and distributors of similar products. Lessening of competition between customers of Kraft-Phenix was also alleged, and some of them

were alleged to have received favored prices.

In filing his bill of complaint, the commission pointed out that no allegation was made of "bad faith or any subterfuge or secrecy on the part of Kraft-Phenix in connection with its price policy."

Charges against Shefford Cheese were substantially the same as in the case of Kraft-Phenix.

Secretary Ickes Reports
Alleged Collusive Bids

SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR ICKES referred to the Department of Justice for investigation two new instances of alleged collusive bidding for federal construction material contracts. The charges are against seventeen copper cable and steel tubing firms. The Justice department already has under investigation previous charges made by Ickes of collusive bidding on steel contracts.

The projects affected were the North Platte reclamation development in Nebraska, and the Grand Coulee Dam in the Columbia river basin of Washington.

Many of the bids in both cases, said Mr. Ickes, were identical. However, in each case at least one bidder submitted different and lower figures, and the contracts were awarded.

Former Ambassador Straus
Taken by Pneumonia

JESSE ISADOR STRAUS, merchant prince and, until his resignation last August, American ambassador to France, passed away in his New York home at the age of sixty-four.

The immediate cause of death was pneumonia, but Mr. Straus had been in ill health for some time, this being the reason for his retirement from the ambassadorship.

Graduating from Harvard in 1893, Mr. Straus began work as a bank clerk. In 1896 he obtained employment with R. H. Macy & Co., big New York department store, and by 1919 was its president, holding that position until he was given the Paris post by President Roosevelt in 1933. He was a Democrat and was a member of the board of overseers of Harvard and of the American Academy of Political and Social Science. He maintained a country estate at Mount Kisco, N. Y., as well as a city apartment.

Italy's Cabinet Votes
to Devalue the Lira

FOLLOWING the example set by France and other countries, the Italian cabinet voted to devalue the lira, setting its value at approximately 5.2 cents, as compared with the latest previous figure of 7.6 cents. The cabinet also let it be known that it would take action to prevent rent and price increases; and it voted a new 5 per cent capital levy to which property owners are obliged to subscribe to the extent of 5 per cent of their wealth.

The gold value of the lira was placed at 4.677 grams of gold for each 100 lire. Gold reserves of the Bank of Italy will be revalued on the basis of the new lira with the surplus to be placed at the disposition of the treasury.

French Communists and
Fascists Clash

FRANCE may be on the verge of a civil war between Communists and Fascists comparable to the terrible conflict in Spain. In Paris desperate fighting already has begun. The Reds, numbering many thousands, and the nationalists, under orders from Col. Francois de la Rocque whose Croix de Feu organization was disbanded by the government, undertook rival demonstrations; and the result was a day-long series of street battles in which hundreds were wounded. Order was finally restored for the time being by a force of 12,000 republican guards and police.

The Nationalist-rightists said the fighting "was only beginning." Troubles resulting from devaluation of the franc would be severe and numerous, they predicted. Leftists charged the battles were part of a rightist plot to provoke trouble for the Socialist government.

In London, also, there was a big riot in which a hundred persons were injured. Sir Oswald Mosley's Black Shirts, a Fascist organization, planned a parade but Communists and Socialists numbering 100,000 were determined to prevent it and battled with a big force of east end police to get at their enemies. The authorities forbade the parade as scheduled but the opposing mobs got together in various localities and fought desperately. Sir Oswald issued a statement charging that "the British government has openly surrendered to Red terror."

Madrid Claims Victories
Over the Insurgents

THOUGH the capture of Toledo by the Spanish insurgents was a severe blow for the government, it by no means ended the civil war. Madrid announces that one of the loyalist columns broke the rebel line that almost surrounded the capital and re-took the important junction town of Maqueda. An army of loyalist miners was reported to have reached the outskirts of Oviedo, and reinforcements for the Madrid garrison were on their way from Asturias province and from Valencia. The government forces also were said to have taken the important town of Motrico on the Bay of Biscay.

Gen. Francisco Franco, chief of the insurgents, decreed a Fascist dictatorship and created a "Junta of state" which will govern subject to his will. In his first statement of policy, Franco assured workers they would be "protected against the ills of capitalism and that steps would be taken to regulate favorable working hours."

"All Spaniards will be obliged to work according to their capacity," he said. "In the new state no parasitical citizens will be permitted."

Bleakley and Lehman for
New York Governorship

REPUBLICANS and Democrats of New York state met in convention at Albany and Syracuse respectively, selected their state tickets and started on a hot campaign.

The Republicans entered the fight under a new leader for they named William F. Bleakley of Yonkers, Supreme court justice, for the governorship. The fifty-two-year-old jurist prepared to resign from the bench and take command at once.

Col. Ralph K. Robertson of Buffalo was nominated for lieutenant governor, Nathan D. Perlman of New York city for attorney general and John A. May, Gloversville, for comptroller.

The convention at its evening session heard Col. Frank Knox, Republican vice presidential candidate, in a strong attack on the New Deal.

The Democrats renominated Gov. Herbert H. Lehman, and his candidacy was warmly espoused by President Roosevelt, who went to Syracuse to deliver his first speech as an avowed candidate. The President took occasion to deny again and alleged that issue was a "red herring" dragged across the trail by his opponents.

Al Smith Comes Out
for Gov. Landon

FRANK KNOX, President Roosevelt and Al Smith, all on the air the same evening, provided a political feast for radio listeners. Colonel Knox, speaking at Pittsburgh, reiterated and substantiated his former assertion that New Deal financial policies were imperiling savings accounts and insurance policies. Mr. Roosevelt, not so eloquent as usual, defended the spending policies of his administration. He, too, spoke at Pittsburgh. The high spot of the evening came at the close of Al Smith's address to a women's organization in New York city. He had been treating of the New Deal and its leaders with biting sarcasm and wound up with the dramatic declaration:

"I firmly believe that the remedy for all the ills that we are suffering from today is the election of Alfred M. Landon."

Frankfort, Ky., Celebrates
Its Sesquicentennial

RESIDENTS of Frankfort, Ky., dropped work and politics for three days and, with thousands of guests, celebrated the sesquicentennial of their pretty city. A pioneer touch was given the affair by the arrival of many families from other parts of Kentucky in horse-drawn vehicles and on horseback. There were historical parades and services, an old-fashioned burgoo feast, and a formal banquet at which addresses were delivered by Admiral Hugh Rodman of the navy and Governor Chandler of Kentucky.

"Windfall" Tax Case to
Be Decided by Courts

IN WHAT was said by court attaches to be the first important ruling anywhere on numerous suits filed by packing companies and others against government collection of the "windfall" tax, Judge Robert C. Baltzell of the United States district court at Indianapolis, overruled the government's motion to dismiss a suit for an injunction filed by Kingan and Company, meat packers.

Supreme Court May Pass
on Wagner Labor Act

APPEALS filed by the national labor relations board over the Supreme court five new opportunities to pass on the constitutionality of the Wagner labor relations act. The board asked the high tribunal to review rulings in a case involving the Jones & Laughlin Steel corporation of Pittsburgh, two involvements of the Freuhauf Trailer company of Canton, Ohio, and two affecting the Friedman-Harry Marks Clothing company, New York.

Washington
Digest

National Topics Interpreted
By WILLIAM BRUCKART

One Thing
Needed

would cease attempting to amend the law of supply and demand. The observation was made in the midst of the most depressed economic conditions that modern times had known and it brought down upon my head a vast amount of criticism. Readers wrote me at length about the stupidity that I had displayed by making such a statement.

Reference to that circumstance is made here at this time, because it is apropos again. It is apropos because we are in a political campaign out of which will come either the re-election of Franklin D. Roosevelt or the election of Governor Landon of Kansas. The results of this political campaign are going to hinge to a considerable extent on the attitude of the farmers of this country and if there is one segment of the American economic structure to whom the law of supply and demand means more than to another, it is to the farmers.

Now, Democratic spokesmen are going about the country talking about soil conservation, about relief for the farmers, about anything and everything that will give the farmers money.

Republican spokesmen are shouting and waving their arms with other propositions to aid the farmer. Some of them probably are workable, and if they are workable they must be considered constructive.

But the point I am trying to make is that in the case of either candidate, there is still too much of the idea of the superficial, of surface help, for agriculture. In other words, the programs still take into account some circumvention of the law of supply and demand. That statement is not wholly true of Governor Landon's farm program, but unless the New Dealers come forward with more than they have thus far advanced, I think it can be said their program offers nothing more than a continued raid on the Treasury of the United States with no plans at all for correcting underlying conditions.

There was one phase of Governor
Landon's program, as advanced in
speeches at Des Moines, Iowa and
Minneapolis, Minn., that appealed to
me. Brushing aside verbiage and
detail, Governor Landon basically
has in mind, apparently, a desire
to get the government out of the
farmer's hair. He seems convinced
that there are many things which
the farmers would like to do for
themselves and will do for them-
selves if the machinery upon which
they can operate is made available.

He proposes, for example, to seek legislation that will enable the farmers to finance themselves through borrowing from commercial agencies, banks and trust companies, instead of from the government. With that I agree to the fullest. It means simply that farmers again can be masters of their own souls as well as the crops which they grow for it, puts them in a position to sell when they want to sell, without the necessity for asking permission from a bureaucrat in Washington. It means further that no bureaucrat in Washington can issue an order to that farmer that he must dispose of his stored crop.

It seems to me as well that anyone who analyzes the present registration of the farmers from mention of the government, that which has always been true: Every time the government, which means politicians, attempts to mess into private business, that private business goes from bad to worse and it does not matter how bad it was when bureaucrats took hold. It will be worse thereafter.

I have been wondering, however,
how far Mr. Landon will go in en-
couragement of
the family type
Farm Problem

He spoke at length of family type farms in his Des Moines address. Personally, I feel that he hit upon a very important point. I think it is important because it strikes at the root of the farm problem.

In discussing help for the man who owns or wants to own a small farm, Governor Landon surely is proposing a program that will serve this nation well because no nation whose farms are widely owned by those who operate them can be headed toward fascism or communism. I do not know how the Governor as President will be able to put the federal government behind such a program, but it is to be assumed that he had definite ideas on the subject or he would not have boldly stated his position. My hope is that it can be done not with government money, but with money supplied from private institutions since there has been too much government competition with business of the nation already. Further, regret-

ful as it is, the federal government has not and cannot have any function in that field for the reason that it inevitably leads further into politics, further into waste and the eventual destruction of the people whom the demagogues claim they are helping.

The reason I have advocated this action so strongly is the fact that there are too many tenant farmers in the United States now, far too many. It is fundamental, in my opinion, that this nation can get on with the present trend. It is said, but it is not true, that there are about forty per cent of our farms now operated by tenants. In other words, one out of less than three farms in the United States is worked by a man who does not own it.

Some information was made public
the other day to the effect that
85 per cent of the
newspapers of the
country were sup-
porting Governor
Landon as against President Roosevelt
in this campaign. I do not
know the actual percentage and I
do not vouch for the figures I have
reported to you. But of this I am
certain: I believe that Governor
Landon does have more editorial
support than any presidential nom-
inee has had in the last six cam-
paigns, with the exception of Pres-
ident Roosevelt as a candidate in
1932.

It has been interesting to watch the various important independent newspapers as they have studied the two candidates this year and have reached conclusions as to the nominee they will support. I am not now referring to hide-bound Republican papers, nor to newspapers that could normally be expected to support the more conservative of the two candidates. I am thinking of independent or distinctly Democratic newspapers that have announced their opposition to the Roosevelt cause. Let me mention a few of them: The St. Louis Post-Dispatch, the Omaha World Herald, the Baltimore Sun, to mention only three.

There was a great newspaper, one of the greatest, that took a stand for President Roosevelt a few days ago. I refer to the New York Times. No one can ever say that the New York Times ever has failed to arrive at its conclusions without giving all factors concerned careful study. I am saying by this that the New York Times is honest and sincere. But I must say at the same time that the New York Times has a background as an institution and it has a clientele of readers for whom it speaks and its accession to the Roosevelt cause is a perfectly natural position for it to take. For years the New York Times has contended that America should participate to a greater extent in world affairs. It has contended, without exception, for policies of an internationalism with which a great many thinking people disagree. Its view, concretely, appears to be that we cannot correct depression conditions unless the United States as a nation wholeheartedly moves in the circle of governments that rule Europe and Asia, especially in matters of an economic character.

I do not know what Governor Landon's pronouncements on foreign policy are going to be. But I have observed the policies that have had the backing of the New York Times over a number of years and it seems to me that they result in greater benefits to a limited class than to the country as a whole. I am not a rabble rouser; I do not link the New York Times with the money-changers of Wall street as the demagogues describe them. It is just the perspective that I have gained of the whole picture since I have had no axes to grind.

In the case of those newspapers that have turned against Mr. Roosevelt, there is to some extent a consideration of local interests, circumstances of concern to the communities which they serve, just as in the case of the New York Times. The point is, however, that in the case of newspapers turning against Mr. Roosevelt, their new positions are predicated on what appears to me to be traditional American bases. That is to say, they are adhering to the principles which I believe to have been the foundation stones of American history. I have no quarrel with the attitude of that school of thought that believes we should engage further in international affairs than we have done. It is their conviction and they have a right to it. Yet, it is not mine.

I have said many times in these columns that I will support any proposition that is good for America as a whole; I have contended consistently for Americanism and the things which that means, and I have argued always for sound government.

How ARE
YOU
TODAY
Dr. James W. Barton
TALKS ABOUT

Use of Drugs

WHEN we remember that what we call drugs are in most cases the leaves of the field and the roots of the ground, all provided by Nature, it may be only natural to believe that they should be used often and regularly.

However Osler, our greatest modern physician, stated that he had reduced the number of his drugs to a total of 15, that he thought he would soon have the number down to 4, and perhaps, if he lived long enough, he would use no drugs at all.

However, every thinking physician and every thinking layman recognizes that there are times

of extreme need for powerful drugs—strychnine or digitalis for a fast failing heart and morphine for unbearable pain.

What about all the other drugs commonly used for headaches, rheumatic pains, pain of stomach ulcer, to correct constipation, to prevent diarrhoea?

Give Nature a Chance.

There isn't any question but that a headache powder, some baking soda for the stomach, and the usual remedies for diarrhoea are helpful and harmless when used for short periods. It is considered better to use the drug than to have the whole nervous tone of the body lowered by the depressing effects of the pain.

Then of course there are simple tonics containing iron, phosphorus and lime that put these body building materials into the blood and tissues direct, instead of trying to get them by eating large quantities of food with no appetite and a poor digestion.

However, what is wrong is the habit so many have acquired of drugging themselves regularly and often for slight headaches, constipation and other little disturbances, failing to realize that nature will correct conditions if given the least chance.

Seek Cause of Trouble.

What caused the headache? Eating too fast or too much; eyestrain? Why not correct the cause? What caused the "gas" pains in the stomach or intestines? Certain foods that you know cause it? Why are you constipated? Is it no exercise; not enough fruit and vegetables?

The point is that drugs—leaves and roots—have their place in our present civilization under circumstances. To use them often and regularly for conditions that nature or your common sense can correct is a big mistake.

Advantages of Fasting.

That too much food or the wrong kinds of foods can cause disturbances in the body whether the individual is sick or well is now generally known. That most of us eat more food than we need is likewise known and admitted.

Thus most physicians agree that fasting seems to be of real help in various disturbances of the body.

The ailments in which fasting seems to be good treatment are some acute ailments such as flu, simple colds, and high blood pressure, bronchial asthma, rheumatic disturbances, acute stomach or intestinal upsets and overweight (obesity).

However, fasting is really dangerous in many cases if not supervised by a physician. Dr. W. Eisenberg, Munich, states that the fasting cure may involve danger. Patients with cancer and with tuberculosis should not fast. Hysterical patients should not be allowed to fast, and most cases of mental disturbances should not undergo fasting cures.

Limits of Usefulness.

Sometimes the fasting cure is used on patients with a poor appetite, the idea being that if allowed to go without food for some time the appetite will increase. Dr. Eisenberg points out that this is dangerous in cases of neurasthenia (being tired physically and mentally) as these cases need food to keep up their strength.

While the fasting cure is helpful in many cases of heart disease, it should not be used when there is rheumatism or tonsillitis.

The length of time the fasting cure can be given safely depends upon the condition of the patient, and the physician is best qualified to say how long the fasting cure should be continued.

The food to be eaten at the end of the fast depends upon the patient and his ailment, for although fruits may be advisable in overweight patients, patients with stomach, intestine or liver disorders need a less harsh diet.